

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 03169 230540Z

21

ACTION SMI-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 ABF-01 FSE-00 (ISO) W

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R 230424Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5643

UNCLAS COLOMBO 3169

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OSCI, TBIO

SUBJECT: SMITHSONIAN/SFCP-PROPOSED VISIT OF DR. S. DILLON RIPLEY

REF: STATE 208550

1. AS MENTIONED REFTEL, AMBASSADOR REED, EMBASSY AND IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF THE GSL, WERE GENERALLY AWARE OF AND ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR A VISIT TO SRI LANKA BY DR. RIPLEY EARLY NEXT YEAR. NEEDLESS TO SAY, SPEAKING FOR AMBASSADOR REED WHO IS MOMENTARILY IN THE MALDIVES, THE EMBASSY WILL BE HAPPY TO COOPERATE IN EVERY WAY TO MAKE DR. RIPLEY'S VISIT A SUCCESS.

2. WE ASSUME THAT SMITHSONIAN IS AWARE OF PLANS OF COLOMBO MUSEUM TO CELEBRATE ITS 100TH BIRTHDAY IN EARLY JANUARY, AND HOPE THAT IT WILL BE PERMISSIBLE FOR THE INSTITUTION TO BE REPRESENTED ON THIS OCCASION, WHICH MAY TURN OUT TO BE A BIT EARLIER THAN DR. RIPLEY'S PLANNED VISIT. SUGGEST PLANNING MIGHT BE COORDINATED WITH AMBASSADOR KANAKARATNE AND SRI LANKA EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. PERKINS

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